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FBI Agent Charged With Giving Soviets Secret Information

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WASHINGTON—A Federal Bureau of Investigation counterintelligence agent was arrested on charges that he provided classified data to the Soviet Union.

This is the first time in the bureau's history that an agent has been accused of spying for a foreign power.

The FBI said that it arrested Richard W. Miller, 47 years old, a 20-year FBI veteran who worked out of the bureau's Los Angeles office.

In a 28-page affidavit, FBI agent Bryce Christensen said that Mr. Miller admitted giving a secret FBI document last August to Svetlana Ogorodnikova, a 34-year-old woman who allegedly claimed to be a major in the Soviet KGB. The 24-page document, entitled Reporting Guidance: Foreign Intelligence Information, "would give the KGB a detailed picture of FBI and U.S. intelligence activities, techniques and requirements," Mr. Christensen said.

John Hoos, a spokesman for the FBI's Los Angeles office, said this included "methods and procedures that possibly were utilized" by the FBI.

The bureau said that throughout September it wiretapped Mrs. Ogorodnikova's phone and observed four meetings between her and Mr. Miller. Mr. Christensen said that FBI agents saw Mr. Miller giving Mrs. Ogorodnikova an envelope shortly after he left his office on Sept. 12. But the FBI didn't say whether sensitive information was enclosed.

Mr. Christensen said that Mr. Miller admitted having numerous meetings with Mrs.

Ogorodnikova for four months in which she seemed "sympathetic" to his "personal, professional and financial problems." Mr. Miller also admitted seeking \$50,000 in gold and \$15,000 in cash from Mrs. Ogorodnikova's husband, Nikolay, in return for delivering classified documents to a Soviet official abroad, according to Mr. Christensen.

Mrs. Ogorodnikova and her husband, who is 52 years old, also were arrested on spy charges. The FBI said they emigrated to this country from the Soviet Union in 1973. The bureau said she worked in Los Angeles as a nurse and he as a butcher.

Mr. Hoos of the FBI said the agency is currently "conducting an assessment of what type of damage has been done, if any."